

Passover 5758

Passover begins Friday evening April 10, which means that the first seder is also Erev Shabbat. Sha'ar Zahav has a number of activities planned to ensure that all members of our community have a festive and liberating Passover this year.

First Night Seder for All CSZ Members

The commandment that is repeated the most in the Torah is to treat with respect the stranger in our midst because each of us was a stranger in the land of Egypt. At this time of year when we celebrate our liberation from bondage and exodus to our own land, we must particularly pay attention to the strangers among us. The Passover Haggadah instructs us to set an extra place at our seder table and reminds us that being a stranger can mean many different things. As the CSZ Haggadah says, "All who are afraid, all who think they have no place, those who fear they do not know enough to participate and those who have seen too much to believe in hope, we have set aside a place for you."

In order to make our liturgy a reality, we have created a "seder matching" program to assure that all CSZ members have a first night seder (and Shabbat dinner) to attend. In the spirit of Passover, please call Renée in the synagogue office if you can offer a seat at your seder or if you are looking for a seder to attend.

Congregational Second Night Seder

CSZ will host an annual second night seder on Saturday, April 11. (See enclosed flier for details.)

La'atid Passover Mitzvah Project

Help those in need prepare for Passover! La'atid needs volunteers to help deliver Passover baskets to Jewish Family and Children's Services' homebound clients—seniors, people living with AIDS and disabled clients—on Sunday, April 5. Volunteers will meet at JFCS, 1600 Scott Street at Post, at 10 am. A bagel breakfast will be served and our work should be done by 1 pm. Please call Renée in the CSZ office if you can help out.

Tot Model Seder

Sitting still at seder is very hard for some of us. If it is for you, come join CSZ toddlers, preschoolers and their families at a tot model seder on Sunday, April 5 at 11:30 am at the home of Shayna, Tzipora, and Ora Prochovnick and Rena Frantz, 47 Cuvier St. You will learn about the themes of Passover and the components of the seder through song, interactive games and lots of fun food.

CSZ Co-Sponsors Women's Seder

Join Jewish women from around the bay area and experience the Passover seder from a women's perspective. We will learn, laugh, share, schmooze, eat, drink, sing and dance to our heart's content. You are invited to bring your own musical instruments and a friend to add to the ruach (spirit). This inspirational seder for women of all ages is co-sponsored by CSZ, Congregation Emanu-El, Congregation Rodef Shalom, the women of Temple Isaiah and the Kehillah Community Synagogue, and features Rabbi Sydney Mintz, Rabbi Zari Weiss, our own Rabbi Litman, Cantor Linda Hirschorn and Vocolot. The seder will take place on the seventh night of Passover, Thursday, April 16, at 6 pm, at Congregation Emanu-El. The cost is \$35 for members of one of the sponsoring organizations and \$45 for non-members. Call Congregation Emanu-El (751-2535) to make a reservation.



"It's Tot Shabbat!" Photo by Renée Bauer.

CSZ Interim Space Information

Contacting us: Our telephone, fax and e-mail remain the same.

Telephone: (415) 861-6932

Fax: (415) 861-6081

E-mail: shaarzahav@igc.apc.org

Website: www.shaarzahav.org

Writing us: Please send all roster updates, newsletter submissions, dues payments, donations and other materials to our new home. *Use this address for writing to us only.*

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
290 Dolores Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Visiting us: Rabbi Litman and our office staff are sharing space with the staff of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 3281 16th St., catty-corner from our new building. Our drop-in hours are limited. Please call us before dropping by.

Worship services: All Shabbat services, except our monthly East Bay service, are being held at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. Healing services are at Congregation Sherith Israel, 2266 California St.

Meetings: Va'ad meetings remain open to all members, and are at 345 Church St. (Church Street Gardens). For the location of committee meetings, contact the chair of the committee.

Shabbat Morning Service

In April, our Shabbat morning service will be on the third Saturday of the month (April 18), not the second. The service will be immediately followed by the traditional Yizkor service held during Pesach.

Ceremony and Ritual

According to the most comprehensive evaluation of Jewish demographics and practice to date, the most common Jewish observance in America is attending a Passover seder. Why is this? Scholars, rabbis, and community leaders give many answers. The seder is based in the home, rather than the synagogue. Its message is upbeat. The haggadah relates a great dramatic story with a happy ending. Passover resonates with important American narrative themes such as migration and freedom. Passover is a time for friends, family, and community to come together. The seder ritual features interesting and bountiful food.



Rabbi Jane Litman

Rabbi Debra Orenstein makes an interesting distinction between ceremony and ritual which, I believe, illumines the popularity of the seder in the American Jewish community. According to Rabbi Orenstein, ceremony commemorates religious transformations of the past, but ritual creates religious transformation in the present. So, for example, conversionary mikvah is a ritual. The spiritual power of the immersion is transformative. Chanukah, on the other hand, is a ceremony which celebrates the miracle of days long ago. At first glance one might think that Passover falls into the same category as Chanukah, that it commemorates an event of 3,000 years ago. However, Passover is both a ceremony and a ritual, a commemoration and a re-creation of the passage from slavery to freedom.

At our seders, we taste the bitter herb and thus take in the bitterness of slavery. The seder instructs us that each of us was personally redeemed from Egypt and that redemption is an evolving, ongoing process. Passover is popular among American Jews because it is spiritually alive. The Passover seder demands that we take seriously our own religious values and spiritual growth. In re-enacting the liberation of our ancestors, we invest in the liberation of ourselves.

We live in a world which is not yet

whole. America is a Mitzraim (Egypt, literally, a narrow place) of materialism, conformity, inauthenticity and competition. Judaism, and in particular, Pesach, affirms a different set of values. Passover is about sharing with the hungry, maintaining integrity, working in community and rejecting apathy. Passover celebrates the victory of freedom over slavery in ancient days, but it also spiritually moves those who celebrate it. As we gather and share our bounty with others, we are redeemed from the narrow places of today.

Midrasha

The new semester at Midrasha, a community-based Jewish school for post B'nai Mitzvah students which a number of CSZ's students attend, is well under way. Our students are studying Prophets, Rebels and Lunatics; Jews in the Bay Area; Approaches to Catastrophe; Tales of Reb Nachman; Ha,Ha,Veery Funny; Jewish Philosophy; Silk Painting; Conflict Resolution; Teenage Autobiography; Eco-Judaism; Jewish Guided Imagery; People of the Body; and Theology Through Film.

In January the Gesherim (8th grade) parents and students had a wonderful morning with Jewish Family and Children's Service staffers Nikki Sachs and Rebecca Weiner exploring the issue of communication between teens and their parents. On March 1, Rachel Biale, also a JFCS staff member, conducted a workshop on "Beyond 'Boys' and 'Girls': Parenting Teens in a Gender Conscious Way."

It's time to start saving items for the May 3 Midrasha garage sale. Contact Midrasha (510/843-4667) for information on where to bring your donations.

SAVE THE DATE

*Annual
Congregational
Meeting*

Sunday, May 17 • 3 pm

Ritual Committee:

Who Are We?

We are synagogue members who, in partnership with Rabbi Litman, fulfill the CSZ commitment to lay leadership by planning and leading services. You can find us leading an Erev Shabbat service, organizing a Tikkun Shavuot, or convening a shiva minyan in a member's home. While our backgrounds and knowledge of Judaica vary, we share a love of ritual, a desire for Jewish learning and a commitment to CSZ's ritual life.

Issues on recent agendas have included: assigning service leaders and critiquing past services; planning major ritual occasions, such as the congregational seder or Rabbi Litman's installation service; deciding how to maintain our Toratot and ritual silver; and advising the Architecture and Design Committee regarding Mishkan Dolores' sanctuary.

Every other month during the school year we participate in education and development through our Service Leaders' Initiatives. Topics include: writing and delivering a sermon; leading a Torah service; and using the voice effectively. The summer months are occupied primarily with High Holiday planning.

You want to lead Shabbat services? You'd like to teach a tune but would feel funny saying "please rise"? You have stage fright but would like to learn where Kaddish comes from? You'd like to have input into CSZ's minhag? Then join us the last Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm.

Call the office for interim meeting locations or email Lyssa Friedman, the Ritual Committee chair, at Lyssa1@pacbell.net.

Tot Shabbat

Celebrate Tot Shabbat in the East Bay. On Friday evening, April 24, toddler and preschooler families are invited to celebrate Shabbat together at the home of the Pines-Schwartz family, 2821 55th Ave. in Oakland. We will be learning about stories of friendship in Jewish texts, namely Ruth and Naomi and David and Jonathan, as well as having an abbreviated, interactive Kabbalat Shabbat service.

Who Are We?

As those of you who were at last year's Advance may remember, we began a discussion of how we describe ourselves as a congregation. At the end of the weekend, we decided to begin the process of updating our definition of ourselves, and I asked individuals who were willing to participate in the process to identify themselves. Of course we have an official description which was drafted some years ago, but as with all things, times and circumstances have changed. So, too, have the demographics of our membership. Trying to define Sha'ar Zahav is a formidable task, and not one that will be accomplished quickly, but the committee is assembled and the process has begun. Their task is a daunting one, but I am grateful that a few brave members feel inspired enough to take it on.

I appreciate their-willingness to undertake this effort, not only because we need an updated statement describing ourselves for the web site, new brochure and other administrative purposes, but also because this is another example of how committed our members are. It is this larger reason which makes me feel



Diana Buchbinder

indebted to them, and to all our members and staff who give of themselves to make this congregation as unique and vital as it is. I spend a lot of time talking to members who serve on committees, do special projects and help when it is needed. These people are involved because they have a heartfelt connection with CSZ and are motivated by wanting the best for our congregation. What they are doing is not just service, but a labor of love, making us who we are as a community.

So why, I wonder, do I also hear from time to time from members who feel that they cannot continue to participate. Clearly there are always the personal concerns that have nothing to do with their experience as members, but I also hear about experiences which have left vital, involved and committed individuals feeling unappreciated and excluded. Why do they feel hurt and abandoned by a process which is meant to produce the opposite results?

It is not so hard to see how this could happen. Agreeing on the goal is not always the same as agreeing on the route that will get us there. We often agree in principle, only to find out that we all have different "right" ways to realize the goal. But it is sad, nonetheless, that when in our zeal to achieve our vision

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Sukkot in April

On April 26, Sha'ar Zahav will be one of many Jewish agencies participating in the second annual Sukkot in April. Sukkot in April is once again working in partnership with Christmas in April San Francisco to coordinate a two-day community-wide service project. During the last weekend in April, thousands of Christmas in April and Sukkot in April volunteers will repair and preserve homes of low-income, elderly and disabled San Franciscans and renovate community facilities.

CSZ will be repairing and renovating the Westside Community Mental Health Center located at 888 Turk Street in San Francisco. Westside provides mental health and related services to adults, youth and families, operates a crisis clinic and offers outpatient services to assist those in need of mental health treatment and operates an adolescent day treatment service program and school for children with intensive mental health needs. Through its Youth Awareness Program, Westside offers outpatient substance abuse prevention, education, intervention and treatment programs. The Young Women Arise Project is designed to build self-esteem and self concept development for girls between the ages of 11 and 17. In addition, Westside works with the community on AIDS prevention, case management and home care program.

The work being done at our Sukkot in April site will take place over two days. On Saturday, Christmas in April volunteers from Levi Strauss & Co. will renovate a portion of the building. On Sunday, we will complete the project.

In order to make this a success, we need 50 volunteers. Please complete and return the volunteer flier included with this newsletter. Help us be a part of a community-wide effort to make a real impact on people's lives.

Rabbi News

On April 3, at CSZ Shabbat service, Rabbi Litman will speak on "The History of the Reform Movement in America." On April 23, Rabbi Litman will co-lead a study session on Women and the Holocaust for the San Francisco Women's Clergy group. On May 7, Rabbi Litman will speak at Stanford Hillel on "Feminist Judaism: Past, Present and Future."



Tu B'Shevat tree planting. Photo by Renée Bauer.

February Va'ad Minutes

—Michael Chertok, Acting Recorder

D'var Torah. Rabbi Litman noted that the meeting was on President's Day. In our tradition, however, we acknowledge yartzheits, not birthdays. This day commemorates the yartzheit of Ron Wilmot. It is therefore fitting that we will discuss our plans for the new building. Jewish tradition is not in denial of death. Our commemoration is bittersweet.

New Building. David Finn, Project Manager, reviewed the cost changes in original construction estimates in a memo. Some construction has started, but we are still awaiting final permits. Costs have increased since the original estimates. "Hard" (actual construction) costs have increased from \$806,500 to \$1,135,000. "Soft" (project) costs, including design, engineering, permitting and inspections have increased from \$152,000 to \$166,000. The changes will allow us to implement the essential elements of our original Phase two plan, including an additional multipurpose room, with the exception of opening up the oneg room to the hall area.

On April 5, from 2-4 pm, there will be a walk-through of the new building; similar site visits will be held on the first weekend of every month thereafter.

Donor Acknowledgment. We reviewed a previous Va'ad discussion on Mishkan Dolores donor acknowledgments. Agreement had been reached that there will be equal recognition of all donors of time and money. Major donors (\$10,000 or more) will receive additional recognition. President Diana Buchbinder requested that a joint meeting of the Fundraising and Architectural and Design committees bring a recommendation to the Va'ad for a final decision on the specific means of recognition.

Rabbi's Report. The agreement on the conversion issue in Israel means that there will be a civil registration of Jews. This represents a move toward a separation of religion and state in Israel. The Adult Education Committee has been reformulated as "Talmud Torah." Social Action has been reformulated as "Tikkun Olam." Both have developed plans for the year. Many babies have been born; many weddings are planned.

Treasurer's Report. We are somewhat behind on anticipated dues revenue;

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Adult Education Happenings

The Adult Education/Talmud-Torah Committee is off and running with exciting programming headed your way this spring and summer. It's not too late to join Rabbi Litman on Wednesday evenings for Faith Talk, casual conversations about the spiritual (at 7 pm) or for Contemporary Jewish Thought, Buber to Adler, feminism to neo-Hasidism (at 8 pm). These classes run through the end of April.

Are you an Advanced Hebrew student with more to learn? Jump into Phyllis Mintzer's Hebrew class on Wednesdays at 7 pm. Classes run until early June. The fee for this class is \$70 for members and \$90 for non-members.

Working downtown and looking for an opportunity to study Talmud on your lunch break? Over the noon hour, Rabbi Litman will lead Queer Talmud study on alternate Tuesdays for five sessions beginning on April 21. (Other dates are May 5, May 19, June 2 and June 16.)

Want to get away from the city? Hike with Trail Midrash! Beginning on April 25, we'll be on trails in the bay area every third Shabbat at 9 am for a morning hike and the making of Midrash. Bring your stories, songs, poetry and

thoughts about the week's Torah portion. We'll also be hiking on May 16, June 20 and July 18 for starters.

Maybe a quiet evening of crocheting is more to your liking. Make your own kippah with Trudi Hauptman on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm starting on April 28 and running for six weeks. You don't need to know how to crochet. There will be a materials cost of \$5-10.

Would you prefer a noisy and engaging evening of diverse opinions and community exploration? Come to the Internal Diversity Dialogues on Sunday evenings at 7 pm. On May 3, we'll explore the Diversity of Men, mostly in terms of sexual orientation, but who knows what else might come up. On June 14, it's Couples and Faith, that is interfaith and same-faith couples. And on July 5, get ready for the Politics of Hair (not the musical).

We have other one-time programs. Mark your calendars for the all-night Shavuot study session with a guest Mystery Scholar on May 30, and in August get ready for a Yiddish extravaganza in preparation for the California KlezCamp!

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Members of the congregation receive the *Forward*. For \$18/year, nonmembers will receive a *Forward* subscription.

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Printing: Genesis Printing & Graphics

Distribution: Mail It Right

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha’ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, California 94103, marked: attention *Forward* advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

April 1998/Volume 21, Issue 8.

La’atid Gets Political

Join La’atid on Sunday, April 19 for *In Our Image: Queer Jewish Identity*, a panel presentation and discussion on the forces that have shaped our identity as queer Jews. Our panel will include San Francisco supervisor and CSZ member Leslie Katz, San Francisco State Professor Jonathan Katz, Ph.D., Rabbi Jane Litman and other noted activists. The program will begin at 10:30 am and will be held at Notre Dame Senior Center, 347 Dolores St. (next door to St. Matthew’s). Enter at the back of the building.

Last Year in Zimbabwe

CSZ Members Judy Heiman and Martha Moon spent last year working on HIV/STD research in Harare, Zimbabwe. Here is the story of their African Passover.

Our first holiday in Harare was Rosh Hashana. It was on that occasion that we met Lily, who was to become our surrogate Jewish mother for the year. When we were looking for High Holidays services, we were given her name from someone who said she would be likely to know if there was a shul in Harare. When we called to ask for information, she invited us to join her family for shul and Rosh Hashanah dinner.

In fact there are two shuls in Harare, one Ashkenazi and one Sephardic. There used to be a substantial Jewish community there, but many whites including Jews left during the struggle for independence in the 1970s. Now there are two tiny congregations with a total combined membership of 500 Jewish souls. They meet together only once a year, to celebrate Israeli independence.

We did join Lily and her family that Rosh Hashanah, and countless Shabbats afterwards, and enjoyed the warm embrace of a mishpachah so far from home. By the time Passover rolled around (yes, time rolls there, more slowly than here) we were eager to host a seder. We wanted to share some of our traditions with our new-found friends in Harare, who by then included an eclectic mix of locals and expatriates from various parts of the world.

Our first challenge was getting Passover products. We found out that the temples take orders from members and then order in bulk from South Africa. Unfortunately, much of our temple’s order was delayed, so we haunted the one supermarket that carries Passover items, to try to get a few basics. We did find matzah, and the South African version of Manischewitz wine, but could not get matzah meal or matzah cake meal—yikes! They kept saying they had a shipment coming in, but they could not promise to hold some for us. Well, to make a very long story shorter, after at least half a dozen trips to Super M over the course of a few days, we got what we needed.

Those supplies, plus a few key items Judy’s father managed to send, gave us plenty to work with. After all the preparation—some of which was done with a hand-crank food-processor—the

evening of the seder finally arrived. There was a real sense of excitement about sharing this ritual experience, and having people there for whom it was really new made it all the more fun.

The washing of the hands meshed with local tradition—Shona people bring a pitcher and basin and wash the hands of their guests or elders before every meal. The references to spring were kind of funny because it was fall there. It did not take a lot of imagination to relate the salt water representing the tears of our ancestors, the bitter herbs representing the bitterness of slavery, to recent Rhodesia, and in many ways, to current day Zimbabwe.

In recounting the story of the exodus, we were struck by the relevance of so much of it to the Zimbabwean struggle for liberation. (This was aided by the fact that much of our haggadah is drawn from the NJA’s Haggadah of Liberation, no doubt.) One of the most poignant passages was about the Jews after they went into the desert.

This really resonated with all of us present, and made us feel hopeful that the country would in fact have a life free of colonialism. The government is currently largely comprised of Shona ex-combatants, for whom the war for independence was the defining event in their lives. As that generation gives way to the next, and as the old white Rhodesians who are clinging to their power and their colonial attitudes die out, things may be very different.

Going through the alternative ten plagues in our haggadah was especially moving in this setting. We have: blood—of women forced to have illegal abortions (a big problem here); ... slaying of the first born—the countless babies who die each year from ... AIDS ... you get the idea; all of them were very relevant to modern-day Zimbabwe.

The next night we went to a nearby mountain with some friends to see some cave paintings and watch the full moon rise. On our way back down the mountain by the light of the full moon, we had a stunning view of Comet Hale-Bopp—our first. We sat and watched it for a while in the beautiful warm night, until the moon got high enough to compete with it. And we all knew that this was a Passover we would remember for many years.

Great Hebrew!

—Tory Weiser

Finally, I'm in Hebrew school.

The night of the first class, before we even arrived, I was doubtful as to whether or not I would like or finish Hebrew class. While Robin and I were driving to Lehrhaus Judaica (Robin is taking the class as a refresher and to give me support), she tried to reassure me. I kept saying I was fine, but inside I was repeating to myself, "I can't learn languages." I was in quite a state by the time we arrived. Luckily, our class was small; I figured I would humiliate myself in front of only a few people.

In that first class, we learned a smattering of Hebrew language history and covered half the aleph-bet (block letters only). My heart lightened when I realized that I would only have to memorize. So that's what my first week consisted of—memorizing aleph through lamed.

During our second lesson, we were taught the rest of the aleph-bet, the cursive letters, the vowels and a ten word vocabulary list. Okay, I was a little overwhelmed but it hadn't reached the critical stage. For our homework, we had to memorize the vocabulary list and translate a number of sentences containing our vocabulary words. I figured this is what would separate the women from the girls, I clearly knew where I stood, and it wasn't with the women. I learned the rest of the aleph-bet and the vowels. I decided early in the week that I would learn the cursive letters in another lifetime. One entire new aleph-bet was enough for me.

When I got to the translating, I discovered that it was pretty easy. I could read Hebrew. Granted, it was only ten words but I was still reading Hebrew. I was thrilled. Robin helped me some, we did the exercises together, she quizzed me on the vocabulary words and corrected my homework.

In the most recent class (the third class), as we reviewed our homework, I found out that my answers were correct. Then and there I was hooked. I've decided to take as many Hebrew classes as Lehrhaus Judaica has to offer. I can't believe the change in me. We left class with ten more vocabulary words and many translations, Hebrew to English and vice versa.

I'm so excited that I've gotten a little cocky. The night after class three, I started reading L'cha Dodi aloud to Robin. I read the refrain and the first verse with (I confess) a little help from Robin. It was such a strain, mentally and physically, that I had to lie down afterwards. So much for being cocky.

My big moment came at a recent Shabbat service. I was actually picking out words in the Hebrew text. Granted, I was ten lines behind everyone else, but I was still reading Hebrew from the Siddur. That service was different for me; I felt completely part of the service and the congregation. I became Jewish that night. After services, Rabbi Litman approached me to say that she was so delighted to see me trying to read Hebrew that it nearly moved her to tears. That may have been one of the finest moments I've ever experienced.

Wait and see how dangerous I am when I know 50 words. I'll be the one reading ahead in the prayerbook.

Members' Yahrzeits

2	Ron Gertz
3	Abraham Cohen
6	Dennis Mitchell
21	Robert Sterman
23	Michael Randall

First Generation

First Generation is a term used to describe those who remember San Francisco when Senator Diane Feinstein was mayor, Sha'ar Zahav before Danvers Street, when a Ford was President, the Trocadero, Feebee's, the Brig, aviator jackets and Gay Pride Parades on Polk Street. First Generation, or Dor Rishon, is also the name adopted by the new men's social group at Sha'ar Zahav.

We plan to hold at least one event each month. While our primary aim is to serve the needs of our members who are First Generation, our events are open to all. If you are interested in what we are doing, please join us, no matter what generation you are.

Sunday, April 19, First Generation will be touring the Judah L. Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell Street, Berkeley. The Magnes is the third largest Jewish Museum in North America and the first Jewish Museum to be accredited by the American Association of Museums. Join us for a private, docent-led tour of this renowned collection of Jewish paintings, sculptures, prints and drawings, as well as the current exhibition of Jewish rugs. The tour of the museum will begin at 2 pm. If you'd like to join us earlier for brunch, meet at noon at the Red Tractor Cafe, 5634 College Ave., Oakland, one block from the Rockridge BART Station. For more information, call Bill Goldstein (510/793-4283).



Mary Morgan and Benjie Morgan-Achtenberg move dirt on Tu B'Shevat. Photo by Renée Bauer.

Cemetery Q&A

Questions often arise—sometimes suddenly or urgently—regarding use of our cemetery. This article answers some of the most frequently asked questions; you can find other answers in the CSZ guide, "A House in Order—Making Life's Final Preparations," which is available through the synagogue office.

Please remember pre-need arrangements of all kinds are available and will ease the burden on your loved ones at the time of your death.

Q. Why is there a Sha'ar Zahav Cemetery? A. The Cemetery Committee was formed because so many members were dying and being buried in different places all over the country. Our community felt the need for an alternative choice. The death of our past president, Cheryl Orvis, accelerated the project and we negotiated our cemetery space contract at Sherith Israel's Hills of Eternity.

Q. Do we own our cemetery? A. No. Congregation Sherith Israel owns Hills of Eternity Cemetery. We have a contract which is automatically renewed every five years for exclusive use of an area within the cemetery.

Q. How do I buy a plot? A. Call Steve Weiner, sales director at the cemetery (650/756-3633). You must buy your plot from Sherith Israel (Hills of Eternity).

Q. Who can be buried in the CSZ cemetery? A. Our original contract provided for burial of a member of CSZ who was of the Jewish faith, a person deemed his or her spouse by CSZ (including a spouse not of the Jewish faith), and the children of either. The list has

been expanded to include parents and siblings of a member and his or her spouse.

Q. Does CSZ make money from the cemetery? A. No. The relatively small amounts we receive in referral fees have not offset our costs of running the cemetery.

Q. What is Sinai Memorial Chapel, and how does it fit in? A. Sinai Memorial Chapel is the Chevra Kadisha, the holy burial society, of the bay area. Sinai offers the usual services of funeral directors, but with an important difference. Sinai is non-profit; its earnings are given back to the Jewish community, primarily to foster Jewish education.

Traditionally, the purpose of a Chevra Kadisha is to provide funeral services and burial for all Jews, regardless of ability to pay. Sinai fulfills this tradition for Jews in the bay area. Any Jew who cannot afford it is given free funeral services and a free burial in Sinai's Eternal Home Cemetery, near Hills of Eternity.

If a child under age six dies, Sinai provides free funeral and burial at Eternal Home, regardless of the family's ability to pay. Burial may be in a special area of Eternal Home set aside for children, if desired.

Q. What if a CSZ member can't afford a plot in our cemetery; won't Sinai pay for it? A. No. Sinai's Chevra Kadisha policy applies only to its own cemetery; it will not pay to bury someone in any other cemetery.

Q. Why doesn't CSZ buy plots for

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Newsletter Changes

—Robin Leonard

Beginning with the March 1998 issue of the *Jewish Gaily Forward*, we began using a mailing house to distribute the newsletters. This change came about primarily because our mailing list has grown tremendously. We regularly send the JGF to members, subscribers and community and sibling organizations. In addition, we keep certain people on our mailing list for a few months—most notably prospective members and non-member donors. By last February, our mailing list had grown to nearly 1,300 and the distribution subcommittee needed about 30 hours each month to label, stamp, sort and send the issues. This became too much of a burden.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the CSZ members who made up the most recent distribution subcommittee: Co-coordinators Rachel Maclachlan and Nancy Silverrod, long-time distribution subcommittee members Sam Thal, Eli Weinstein and Alison Cohen; and Leora Eisenberg, Sarita Groisser, Lauren Kim, Alan Michels, Drew Parker and Mike Siani.

Our switch over to a mailing house will also save CSZ money. The mailing house can efficiently send all newsletters bulk (9¢ a copy) as opposed to members first class (at least 55¢ a copy) and non-members bulk, as was the case when we sent them ourselves. However, we do not want our members who live outside of San Francisco to be disadvantaged by our mailing the JGF via bulk mail. Therefore, if you did not receive this issue by the first of April, please let the CSZ office know, and we will make arrangements to send your copy via first class.

Lastly, I would like to thank Stephan Howard, who recently stepped down from the committee, for his many years of working on the JGF layout. We'll miss his eye for design and his wicked sense of humor.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Anniversaries

- 4 Lucy Bernholz and Paula Fleisher
- 10 Carolyn Pines and Judy Schwartz
- 12 Elaine Porter and Ann Ritzma
- 21 Rena Frantz and Ora Prochovnick
- 22 David Israels and William Salit
- 29 Colette Patt and Jennifer Lorvick

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆



*Thanks to member support,
I have contributed over
\$4,000 to Mishkan Dolores.
Thank you!*



Deborah Udin
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Community Events & Information

Bereavement Camp

Whether you're mourning the loss of a partner, child, parent, sibling, friend or grandparent, this special weekend at Camp Tawonga is for you. It makes no difference if your loss is very fresh or years old, or whether you attend alone or as a family. The weekend will provide several opportunities to work through loss in your life through informal discussion groups facilitated by professional grief care givers, a Jewish Healing service, arts and crafts, singing and quiet time in the beautiful Sierras.

The program will take place over the weekend of May 15-17 and is co-sponsored by Camp Tawonga, Jewish Family and Children's Services and Ruach Ami: Bay Area Jewish Healing Center in cooperation with the Jewish Family Outreach Project of the Bureau of Jewish Education. Among the facilitators will be Rabbi Eric Weiss, CSZ member and Director of Ruach Ami; Lee Pollak, LCSW at JFCS; and Renée Bauer, CSZ program director and Ruach Ami chaplain intern. For more information or to make a reservation, call 543-2267.

Cancer Screening

The threat of breast and ovarian cancer has been well-publicized in the media and has created a great deal of fear. For Jewish women, this fear is compounded by the known greater risk for those of Ashkenazi descent. In the general population, one in eight American women will be diagnosed with breast cancer; in the Ashkenazi population, that ratio is higher.

The Cancer Risk Program at the UCSF-Mt. Zion Cancer Center provides free education sessions to help people learn about their risks. If a person then wishes more information about individual risk and screening, an assessment

appointment will be set up to discuss the results of the testing and risk reduction options. A team of professionals, including genetic counselors and oncological doctors and nurses, is available to all patients, as are psychological support and resource services.

The Cancer Risk Program offers education and support to the bay area Jewish community. Contact Beth Crawford, MS at 885-7779 for more information.

Holocaust Survivors

Jewish Family and Children's Services, the Northern California Holocaust Center and Tikvah Acharey HaShoah are sponsoring an intergenerational discussion group of Holocaust survivors and the children of survivors whose parents were Jews in Nazi Europe or refugees who left before the war. Third generation and other family members are also welcome. For information on dates, time, location and fee, call Sheryl Groden at 561-1244.

Souvenirs From Israel

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel, the Judah L. Magnes Museum will debut an original exhibition, *Souvenirs From Israel, 1948-1998*, in July 1998. This exhibition will examine the relationship of Americans to Israel through objects acquired by American tourists over the past 50 years. The Museum is currently looking for artifacts from Israel brought back by bay area tourists, including everything from postcards and keychains to ritual objects and artwork. If you have an item you'd be willing to loan the Museum for a minimum of four months, contact Michal Friedlander or Naomi Leite at 510/549-6950.

Jerusalem Open House

Gay, lesbian and bisexual people of Israel have established the Jerusalem

Open House, a "Lesbigay Center, Advancing the Cause of Social Tolerance." It's open to gay, lesbian and bisexual people of every creed, ethnic background and political persuasion. For information, contact Jerry Levinson, chairperson of the Jerusalem Open House, P.O. Box 33107, Jerusalem, Israel 91037 or by e-mail at gayj@hotmail.com. In the U.S., you can contact Hagai El-Ad by calling 617/247-8420, or by e-mail at helad@cfa.harvard.edu.

Adult Education

Continued from page 4

Is there nothing here that excites you? Join the Adult Education/Talmud-Torah Committee and help plan the programs. Call Sue Bojdak at 510/601-6791 for information on how to get involved.

For more information on any of the programs listed above or to register, please call the CSZ office.

Do you have e-mail?

Drop us a line at
shaarzahav@igc.apc.org

Are you on the Net?

Visit our web site at
www.shaarzahav.org

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East Bay ... 3415 Mt. Diablo Blvd. in Lafayette
(510) 284-3945

Gene B. Kaufman, Executive Director

Commemoration of Yom Hashoah

The San Francisco Jewish community will observe Yom Hashoah on Wednesday evening, April 22, with a candle lighting commemoration service at Congregation Emanu-El.

The following Friday evening, April 24, CSZ will commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Day at a special Kabbalat Shabbat service. Rabbi Litman and Jonathan Pannor will lead a service dedicated to remembrance and mourning. Holocaust survivor and CSZ member Jerry Rosenstein will deliver a sermon about his own experiences as a survivor.

Va'ad Minutes

Continued from page 4
some of this will be made up by an unanticipated surplus in other revenues. A CSZ scholarship policy was proposed and distributed for review.

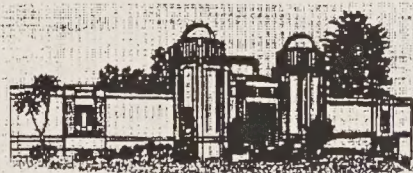
President's Report. Information on Sha'ar Zahav's cemetery was distributed to the Va'ad. Thanks to Richard Inlander for assembling this. Information on UAHC President Rabbi Yoffe's Five Point Jewish Literacy Program was distributed to the Va'ad.

Administrator's Report. The Advance will be held over the July 24-26 weekend at Saratoga Springs Retreat Center in Upper Lake.



Yom Ha'atzmaut: Israeli Independence

On April 30, Israel turns 50! Israeli politics is a hot topic in the news and an issue with which many of us grapple, but Yom Ha'atzmaut is a time we can celebrate the accomplishments, rich culture and blessings of the Jewish state. CSZ will celebrate the 50th anniversary of Israel's independence on Friday evening, May 1, at a special Shabbat service honoring the Israeli members of our congregation. The service will be led by Barak Gale and Inbal Kashtan, both originally from Israel. The service will be followed by a festive Oneg with Israeli dancing and music!



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Newsletter
Committee!*

Liberal Jewish Organizations to Merge

—Ron Lezell

The boards of directors of the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA) and the World Union for Progressive Judaism (WUPJ) approved a merger of the WUPJ/North American Board and ARZA into one unified organization. With this merger, the Reform Movement in North America will have a unified voice: vision and leadership organized to support Reform Judaism in Israel. As explained by Rabbi Eric Yoffie, UAHC President, this new entity will help us face the challenges before us: "ending politicized monopolistic religion in Israel; creating a new Israeli Judaism that will draw Israelis to a renewal of Jewish practice and belief; and advancing everywhere the cause of religious freedom and the partnership of the Jewish people."

You have received, or will soon receive, a letter from Rabbi Litman and Diana Buchbinder, that urges you to join or renew your membership in ARZA. Become part of this exciting new stage in the growth of the Reform Movement, its connection to, and support of, our efforts in Israel.

HIV + Support Group

CSZ has ongoing support services for members living with HIV/AIDS and their families and partners each month, in addition to quarterly Shabbat dinners. Mark your calendars:

Saturday, April 18 (third Saturday this month!) at 3 pm: Support Group led by Rabbi Litman and Robert Tat, location TBA.

If you have any questions or would like to put your name on our confidential mailing list, please let us know.

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Contributions

Adult Education Fund

Lisa Ochs and Lea Salem, in honor of Daphne Stuart's entrance into the Covenant.

AIDS Fund

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Al Nelson.

Richard Sinkoff, in memory of Alice Bernholz Sinkoff.

Richard Sinkoff, in memory of Stephen Mistler.

Bikkur Cholim Fund

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Allen Harris.

Kirsten Gustavson and Amy Scharf, in memory of Isa Cymrot-Wu.

Dr. Murray and Mrs. Edith Hilton, in memory of Belle Rainer.

Leah Kaizer, in memory of Belle Rainer.

Eileen Levy and Jeanette Nichols, in memory of Isa Cymrot-Wu.

Jonah Levy, in memory of Isa Cymrot-Wu.

Phyllis and George Mintzer, in honor of Eileen Levy, Brian Besser and Batya Kalis.

Edward Pollock, in memory of Alan Ellis.

Children's Education Fund

Allan Berenstein, in honor of Phyllis Mintzer's becoming Bat Mitzvah.

Lynn Eden and Ruth Schoenbach, in memory of Marilyn O'Keeffe.

Batya Kalis and Miriam Trentman, in honor of Phyllis Mintzer's becoming Bat Mitzvah.

Walter Leiss, in memory of Marilyn O'Keeffe.

Phyllis and George Mintzer, in memory of Sarah Weinberger.

General Fund

Randall Alfred.

Marjorie Bennett, in memory of Eugene Bennett.

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Isabel Fishman.

James Carlson, in honor of Daphne Stuart's entrance into the Covenant.

James Carlson, in memory of Ron Wilmot.

Nancy Epstein, in memory of Marilyn Epstein Levine.

Bryan Freedman and Ron Gregoire, in memory of Rabbi Herman Grossman.

Jonathan Funk, in memory of Mike Kozlowski.

Ken Kalstein and David Meyer, in memory of Grace Wile.

Carol and Jordan Levitin, in memory of Ron Wilmot.

Simma Lieberman, in memory of Abraham Lieberman.

Mark Mackler, in honor of Susan and Richard Goldwasser.

Judy and Sophie Macks, in memory of Grandma Ruth.

Clarence McClanahan.

Colette Patt, in memory of Yvonne Phyllis Patt.

Edward Pollock, in memory of Irvin Pollock.

Kit Powis.

Mike Siani.

Nina Jo Smith, in memory of Maxine Shear.

Daphne Stuart, in honor of those who helped with her entrance into the Covenant: Paul Cohen, Phyllis Mintzer, Marilyn O'Keeffe, Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Rabbi Martha Bergadine and Rabbi Jane Litman.

Daphne Stuart, in honor of James Carlson's entrance into the Covenant.

Ami Zusman, in memory of Benjamin Herzl Saperstein.

Inclusive Liturgy Fund

Patricia Lin, in honor of Daphne Stuart's entrance into the Covenant.

Mishkan Dolores Fund

Lorne Abraham.

Ronald Edelman.

Jason Feinberg, in honor of James Carlson's entrance into the Covenant.

Roshell Goldman.

Louis Hirschmann, in honor of Ellie Cohen.

Carol Hoffman and Mark Weisman, in memory of Marilyn O'Keeffe.

Lisa Katz and Sharon Heath, in memory of Marilyn O'Keeffe.

Seymour and Evelyn Klebanoff, in memory of Marilyn O'Keeffe.

John Migliozi, in memory of Marilyn O'Keeffe.

Bernard Pechter.

Deborah Udin, in memory of Ron Wilmot.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Lucy Bernholz and Paula Fleisher, with thanks to Rabbi Litman for her encouragement, wisdom and sensitivity.

Henry Carrey, in memory of David Carrey and Fra'hdl Herman Post.

Henry Carrey, in memory of Neil Stansky.

Friends and Family of Ron Wilmot.

Jan and Ben Greenberg, in honor of the naming of Emma Greenberg-Bell.

Jim Greenberg and Judith Bell, in honor of the naming of Emma Greenberg-Bell.

Julie Moed, in memory of Lil Moed.

Edward Pollock, in memory of Robin Greenfield.

Andy Woodfield and Elliot Brown.

Kadimah News

—David Shneer, Director of Education

The Children's Education Board (CEB) has made a recommendation, with which I agree, that Kadimah continue to be held on Saturday, with special arrangements made for those families for whom this will be a problem. The final decision will be made by the Va'ad at its April meeting.

We have also been discussing the possibility of adding a midweek Hebrew class to the Kadimah schedule for the older students (Rishonim and B'nai Mitzvah). As it stands, the parents, congregation, rabbi, teachers and I have very high expectations of a Kadimah education, and it has become increasingly difficult to meet those expectations. Such an addition would increase the classroom time of the older Kadimah students to prepare them better for B'nai Mitzvah. A midweek Hebrew class would allow teachers to spend more time working on both conversational and liturgical Hebrew, and free up the weekend class for more Judaica, ethics, songs, art and other activities. There would be a tuition increase for those students in the affected classes. The CEB will take a final vote on the issue at the April CEB meeting. If you would like your voice heard, please join us.

Parent's Council, the Kadimah PTA, continues to look for congregants who have special skills to supplement children's education. If you have talent and like to work with children, please contact Liz Schaffer (LNSchaffer@aol.com), Howard Herman (Howard_Herman@ce9.uscourts.gov) or me at the synagogue.

Parents, if you are interested in volunteering to help out the teachers on a Saturday morning as a parent of the week, please contact me at the CSZ office. The school is always looking for more help.

April Kadimah calendar: April 4, Family Pesach celebration. No school April 11, April 18. Regular classes April 25.

Oneg Sponsorship

This generous person sponsored the oneg Shabbat in recent weeks:

3/13 **James Carlson**, in honor of his entry into the Covenant.

Cemetery

Continued from page 7
its indigent members? A. First, under our contract with Sherith Israel, sales of cemetery plots to our members are to be only by Hills of Eternity.

Second, when the Va'ad created the cemetery it was with the express understanding that it should not and would not create a money drain. It set a policy that we would not buy plots for any of our members.

Q. Are there other options? A. Yes. Traditional ground burial is very expensive. For those who prefer and do not object to cremation, there are two less expensive options in our cemetery space. First, cremated remains can be buried in our community plot, at the center of our cemetery. Also, if one family member chooses ground burial and another cremation, one plot can be used for both.

If you have other questions about the cemetery, please contact any member of the committee: Chair, Richard Inlander (821-4134; rpinlander@worldnet.att.net); Paul Cohen (383-8954; cohpi@aol.com); or Irene Ogus (641-1799; keenirene@aol.com).

New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the most recent people to join our family:

Beth Rubin and David Wish

Rick Crane

Adam Justinian

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

Classifieds

KAUAI TROPICAL GARDEN RETREAT: Enchanting setting, perfect for nurturing, healing, romancing. Royal Drive Cottages. Bob Levine/Sandy Meyers Ph/fax, 808/822-2321.

CLUTTER BUSTERS: Afraid to open closets? Packing to move? Pesach spring cleaning? I help minimize and reorganize your home or office. References. Bill: 487-8959.

LEARN SPANISH with the best teacher! Contact Rosalinda del Moral at 487-1631, ext. 2. Llámame!

ALL THINGS MACINTOSH: Troubleshooter for hire! Solve mysterious freezes. Improve performance. Software support, tutoring and more. Roslyn, 510/526-1209.

Condolences

We extend our condolences to members who have suffered recent losses:

Carol Cabell, on the death of her husband, Eugene Valeboe.

Ed Pollock, on the death of his father, Irvin Pollock.

Sara Felder Noily, Daphne Stuart and Lyssa Friedman, on the death of their friend, Barbie Stein.

Drew Campbell, on the death of his aunt, Mary Campbell Whiston.

David Wish, on the death of his grandmother, Beattie Younker.

President

Continued from page 3
we forget about the individual hearts involved. Disagreements, misunderstandings, and confusion are an inescapable part of living and working together. In synagogue work our common bond as Jews, guided by Torah, makes it especially important that we remember to treat each other with love and respect, even more so at those times when we believe that those others have chosen the long and circuitous route.

Naches

To Laura Trupin and Beth Ross, on the birth of their son, Elias William Ross-Trupin.

To Na'ama Firestone and Lesley Levine, on the birth of their daughter, Talia.

To Phyllis Mintzer, on becoming Bat Mitzvah.

To Devra Felder Noily, on her acceptance to the Rabbinic Studies Program at Hebrew Union College.

To Nancy Silverrod and Rachel Maclachlan, on their new home.

Come to 2 JFCS groups for GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL & TRANSGENDERED PARENTS & THEIR CHILDREN

Groups for parents & children will meet at the same time.
\$20-\$35 sliding scale

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Psychological Assistant #PSB25908 Supervised by John DiMartino, Ph.D. Lic. # PSY 10872

& Chaya Rivka Mayerson, M.A.

Psychological Assistant #PSB24143 Supervised by Caren Ludmer, Psy.D. Lic. # PSY 10681

For more information, or to register, call:

Rachel Biale, LCSW (510) 704-7475, ext. 722

Sponsored by Jewish Family & Children's Services of the East Bay

MAY FORWARD DEADLINES

FOR ADVERTISING MONDAY, APRIL 6

To place a display ad, call Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn@earthlink.net). To place a classified ad, call the office.

FOR ARTICLES MONDAY, APRIL 6

Please submit articles both on 3½-inch disk and hard copy on paper double spaced. Write "Attn. Gaily Forward" on top and mail to CSZ. No deadline extensions without advance permission of Robin Leonard at 841-0262 or robinl@nolo.com.

East Bay Services

4/17 Location TBD; call Larry Wexler (510/523-6775)



Birthdays

1	Julian Levant
3	Nathan Birnbaum
3	Judith Green
5	Heather Fox
5	Jerome Goldstein
5	Dara Papo
6	Edward Schultz
7	Judy Macks
7	Gordon Osser
7	Robert Schwartz
9	Tedd Zzenia
12	Devra Felder Noily
12	Terry Rose
12	Kathy Simon
14	Lyssa Friedman
14	Marjorie Hilsenrad
14	Jacob Rothman
14	Amy Clark
15	Susan Stahl
15	Stephen Wilson
16	Peter Barnes
16	Robert Gordon
16	Jeanette Nichols
17	Diana Buchbinder
17	Julie LaPore
18	Deborah Hamolsky
19	Sandy Meyers
19	Henry Moskowitz
19	Martin Spector
20	Aaron Nacamulli
22	Carrie Yang Costello
22	Barak Gale
23	Sara Haber
23	Leslie Halpern
23	Eli Weinstein
24	Samuel Lowinger
24	Karen Schiller
25	Brian Ellis
26	Sarah Comerchero
26	Andre Fournier
27	Tory Weiser
30	Lynn Eden
30	Kathy Freel
30	Judith Klain
30	Henry Mach



Synagogue Information

Rabbi Jane Litman

Officers:

President, Diana Buchbinder
(337-6319 or
threebuchs@sprynet.com)
First Vice President, David Gellman
Second Vice President, Susan
Tubbesing
Treasurer, Arthur Slepian
Recorder, Mark Bowers

Va'ad (Board) Members:

Michael Chertok
Ellie Cohen
Jeff Forman
Lyssa Friedman
Sara Haber
Joe Hample
Lisa Katz
Eileen Levy
Julie Moed

CSZ Staff:

Director of Education, David Shneer
Administrator, Lea Salem
Program Director, Renée Bauer
Kadimah Head Teacher, Phyllis Mintzer
Administrative Assistant, Amy Clark

Committee Chairs:

Adult Education, Sue Bojdak
Archives, open
ARZA contact, Ron Lezell
Baby Chavurah, Lisa Katz
Bequests and Donations, Richard
Inlander
Bikkur Cholim, David Shaber
Bisexual Chavurah, Jim Frazin
Book Group, Mark Mackler
Brotherhood, open
Bylaws, Edward Pollock
Cemetery, Richard Inlander
Children's Education Board, Ruth
Rainero
Cookbook Project, Robin Leonard
Dues Liaison, Sara Haber
East Bay Services, Hilary Zaid
Endowment Fund, Merry Luskin
Environmental Action, Barak Gale and
Brian Besser

Finance, Arthur Slepian
Fine Arts, open
Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin
La'atid, Geoff Benjamin
Leadership Development, Irene Ogus
and Paul Cohen
Library, open
Long-Range Planning, Allan Gold
Membership, Ami Zusman
Mishkan Dolores Chair, Tiela Chalmers
Mishkan Dolores Fundraising,
Ellie Cohen and Lisa Katz
*Mishkan Dolores Architecture
and Design*, Alice Prussin
Newsletter, Robin Leonard
Past Presidents Council, Merry Luskin
Personnel, Susan Tubbesing
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky
Rabbi Liaison, Allan Gold
Ritual, Lyssa Friedman
Social Action, Eloise Magenheim
Toddler/Pre-school Chavurah, Ilana
Bernstein
UAHC National Liaison, Mike Rankin
UAHC Regional Liaison, Daniel Chesir
WGLJO Liaison, Neil Grungras
Women's Chavurah, open

*Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair
are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.*

Bikkur Cholim: If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and of the World Congress

of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.

Services are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am — check calendar for each month.

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1 Wednesday 5 Nisan

- 7 pm, Hebrew: Prayerbook and Biblical class
- 7 pm, Architecture and Design Committee
- 7 pm, Faith Talk class
- 8 pm, Contemporary Jewish Thought class

2 Thursday 6 Nisan

- 5:30 pm, First Generation, men's cocktail hour, Ginger's Trois, 246 Kearney St.

3 Friday 7 Nisan

- 6:16 pm, Candle lighting
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat HaGadol, Classical Reform service led by José Luis Moscovich, Brian Besser, Larry Wexler, Debby Gelber; sermon by Rabbi Litman, "History of Reform Movement in America"; choir and organist, Gary Hunt (St. Matthew's)

4 Saturday 8 Nisan

- 9:30 am, Kadimah Family Passover celebration
- 9:30 am, Haggadah Study at Congregation Emanu-El, led by Rabbi Litman

5 Sunday 9 Nisan

- 10 am, La'atid, Passover baskets delivered to JFCS clients
- 11:30 am, Tot Seder, led by Ora Prochovnick and Patricia Lin, 47 Cuvier St.
- 2 pm, 290 Dolores St. open house

6 Monday 10 Nisan

- 6 pm, Healing service, Congregation Sherith Israel
- 7 pm, Children's Education Board

7 Tuesday 11 Nisan

- 6:30 pm, Dues Committee

8 Wednesday 12 Nisan

- 7 pm, Hebrew: Prayerbook and Biblical class
- 7 pm, Newsletter editing
- 7 pm, Faith Talk class
- 8 pm, Contemporary Jewish Thought class

9 Thursday 13 Nisan

10 Friday 14 Nisan

- Passover, First Seder**
- Shabbat services canceled
 - 1 pm, Office closes
 - 7:23 pm, Candle lighting

11 Saturday 15 Nisan

- Passover, Second Seder**
- Kadimah canceled, Passover break
 - 6:30 pm, Congregational Seder, Fort Mason Officers' Club, led by Brian Besser and Rabbi Litman

12 Sunday 16 Nisan

Passover

13 Monday 17 Nisan

- Passover**
- 6:30 pm, Va'ad meeting, 345 Church St.
 - 7 pm, Newsletter layout

14 Tuesday 18 Nisan

Passover

15 Wednesday 19 Nisan

- Passover**
- 7 pm, Faith Talk class
 - 8 pm, Contemporary Jewish Thought class

16 Thursday 20 Nisan

- Passover**
- 6 pm, Bay Area Women's Seder, Congregation Emanu-El
 - 7 pm, Bikkur Cholim Committee

17 Friday 21 Nisan

Passover

- Office closed
- 7:29 pm, Candle lighting
- 8:15 pm, East Bay service
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat service, led by Ora Prochovnick, Tiela Chalmers, and Noah Nacamulli; sermon by Rabbi Litman, "Is Tonight Passover? Creating Congregational Halacha"

18 Saturday 22 Nisan

Passover (traditionally observed)

- Kadimah canceled, Passover break
- 9 am, Torah study, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
- 10 am, Shabbat service and Yizkor, led by Frank Yellin and Debby Gelber
- 3 pm, HIV Support Group

19 Sunday 23 Nisan

- 10:30 am, "In Our Image: Queer Jewish Identity" discussion panel
- Noon, First Generation brunch, Red Tractor Cafe, 5634 College Ave., Oakland
- 2 pm, First Generation visits Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell St., Berkeley

20 Monday 24 Nisan

- 6 pm, Healing service, Congregation Sherith Israel
- 7 pm, Membership Committee

21 Tuesday 25 Nisan

- 12:30-1:15 pm, Queer Talmud lunch, led by Rabbi Litman, 582 Market St., 10th floor

22 Wednesday 26 Nisan

- 7 pm, Hebrew: Prayerbook and Biblical class
- 7 pm, Faith Talk class
- 8 pm, Contemporary Jewish Thought class

23 Thursday 27 Nisan Yom HaShoah

24 Friday 28 Nisan

Rosh Hodesh Iyar

- 7 pm, Tot Shabbat service, 2821 55th Ave., Oakland
- 7:36 pm, Candle lighting
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat Shemini, led by Rabbi Litman and Jonathan Pannor, sermon by Jerry Rosenstein

25 Saturday 29 Nisan

- 9 am, Trail Midrash
- 9:30 am, Kadimah
- 9:30 am, Torah Study, Congregation Emanu-El
- 10:30 am, "Learn What Our Children Learn" with Rabbi Litman, Congregation Emanu-El

26 Sunday 30 Nisan

- Sukkot in April, Westside Community Mental Health Clinic, 888 Turk St.

27 Monday 1 Iyar

28 Tuesday 2 Iyar

- 7:30 pm, Kippah Construction class

29 Wednesday 3 Iyar

Yom Hazikaron

- 7 pm, Hebrew: Prayerbook and Biblical class
- 7 pm, Faith Talk class
- 8 pm, Contemporary Jewish Thought class

30 Thursday 4 Iyar

Yom HaAtzma'ut

- 6:30 pm, Ritual Committee, Harvey Milk School Library

1 Friday, May 1 5 Iyar

- 7:42 pm, Candle lighting
- 7 pm, Early Kabbalat Shabbat
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat Tazria Metzora, led by Barak Gale and Inbal Kashtan, celebrating 50 years of Israeli Independence

Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.

CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV
290 DOLORES STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94103
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SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Congregational Seder Reservations

Congregational Seder
Tuesday, April 22
Fort Mason Officers' Club

*Reservations must be received
by Friday, April 3*

As always, we will celebrate Pass-over on the second night which this year falls on Saturday, April 11. We will hold our Seder at Fort Mason Officers' Club where we have enjoyed ourselves in a surprisingly haimish atmosphere. The food is very good and the price is extremely reasonable.

Space is limited and allocated on a "first come" basis with members receiving priority. A reservation form is on the right with more details. **THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, APRIL 3.**

We always need a few volunteers for an hour or so before the Seder to help set up the tables. If you can help, please contact the CSZ office.

Please print:

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

☐ MEMBER ☐ NON-MEMBER

Please reserve the following number of places for:

_____ MEMBERS @ \$28
_____ NON-MEMBERS @ \$32
_____ CHILDREN @ \$14

Indicate Choice of Meal(s): _____ CHICKEN _____ VEGETARIAN

Would you like to be seated at a table of single people? _____

All seats will be reserved at pre-assigned tables of 14. You may reserve a full or half table by: 1) indicating names on reverse of this form; or 2) by paying in advance for all tickets. Unless members' names are indicated, all tickets are \$32 each. **EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO SATISFY ALL REQUESTS BUT THEY CANNOT BE GUARANTEED UNLESS A WHOLE TABLE IS RESERVED.**

Our synagogue subsidizes the cost of Seder for children and those unable to afford the whole cost. Can you help with this?

I WISH TO DONATE \$_____ TOWARD SUBSIDIES.

I/WE WISH TO REQUEST A SUBSIDY_____.

Signing for hearing impaired can be requested when reservations are made.

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, APRIL 3.

My check is enclosed for a total of \$_____.

MAIL TO: CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV SEDER
290 DOLORES STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

For further information contact the synagogue office.

NOTE: Fort Mason Officers' Club is located at the very foot of Franklin Street across Bay Street in the park, NOT across from Marina Safeway.



SUKKOT IN APRIL

Volunteer Registration

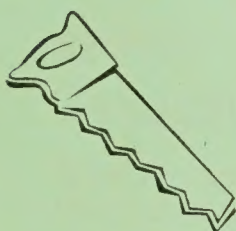
April 26, 1998

No specific skills are necessary to participate!



Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Address _____



Number of people volunteering in your family or group: _____
(For safety and insurance reasons children must be at least 14 years of age.)

No specific skills are necessary to volunteer. If you have any of the following, however, please indicate. (Check all that apply.)

☐ Painting ☐ Electrical ☐ Carpentry ☐ Food Preparation

Other _____



To help cover the costs of each project, a \$10 contribution is being asked of every volunteer. Please make your check payable to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, noting that it is for Sukkot in April. We want everyone to volunteer. If you are unable to make a contribution, we will cover the cost.

If you cannot participate but would like to sponsor volunteer(s), we would appreciate your financial help. Please send a check with this form and indicate how many volunteers you are sponsoring. Any funds not used for this project will be donated to the CSZ Social Action Fund.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 10. Send this registration form with \$10 to:

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
attn: Renée Bauer
290 Dolores Street
San Francisco, CA 94103



If you have any questions, please feel free to call either Laura Lowe (247-2409) or Prudence Carter (560-2886). If you are unavailable on April 26 but want to help out, we can use your advance assistance organizing supplies and volunteers. Please call either Laura or Prudence.

For our volunteer project, we will be primarily painting the Westside Community Mental Health Center, 888 Turk Street, San Francisco.



STUDY IN ALPHAS

No. 1000

1915

1. The first part of the study is a general survey of the subject.

2. The second part is a detailed study of the various aspects of the subject.

3. The third part is a study of the various methods of research in the subject.

4. The fourth part is a study of the various results of research in the subject.

5. The fifth part is a study of the various applications of the subject.

6. The sixth part is a study of the various theories of the subject.

7. The seventh part is a study of the various problems of the subject.

8. The eighth part is a study of the various questions of the subject.

9. The ninth part is a study of the various facts of the subject.

10. The tenth part is a study of the various principles of the subject.

11. The eleventh part is a study of the various laws of the subject.

12. The twelfth part is a study of the various theories of the subject.

13. The thirteenth part is a study of the various problems of the subject.

14. The fourteenth part is a study of the various questions of the subject.

15. The fifteenth part is a study of the various facts of the subject.

Adult Education Spring Calendar

Talmud Torah • תלמוד תורה

Talmud / תלמוד v. Study or learning. Torah / תורה n. Jewish content.

Faith Talk

Rabbi Jane Litman
Wed. 7-8:00 pm
March 25
8 weeks
Site TBA
Come once or come often

Drop-in to discuss
God, belief, faith,
hope, despair, prayer
and more... bring your
firm convictions and
your doubts.

Contemporary Jewish Thought

Rabbi Jane Litman
Wed. 8-9:30 pm
March 25
8 weeks
Site TBA

Examine the work of Martin
Buber, A.J. Heschel,
Mordechai Kaplan, Rachel
Adler, Reb Zalman, Neil
Gillman and Rebecca Alpert.
Explore feminism,
post-modernism,
neo-Hassidism and their
relationship to modern
Jewish thought.

Hebrew: Prayerbook & Biblical

Phyllis Mintzer
Wed. 7-9:00 pm
March 18
10 weeks
\$70 mbr./\$90 non-mbr.
At Phyllis' home

The third section of an
on-going class. Incoming
students should be
competant readers of
Hebrew and should have a
basic understanding of its
grammar. Contact the
office for more details or
to see if you fit.

Internal Diversity Dialogues

**Panel presentations
and discussion**
Sun. 7-8:30 pm
May 3 • June 14 • July 5
Site TBA
Come once or come often

Opportunities for the
congregation to explore
our own diversity...in a few
of its forms. All welcome!

May: A Myriad of Men
**June: Interfaith and
Same-faith Couples**
July: The Politics of Hair

Queer Talmud: Downtown for Lunch

Rabbi Jane Litman
Tue. 12:30-1:15 pm
April 21 • May 5 & 19
June 2 & 16
582 Market Street / 10th Flr.
Come once or come often

Clear your Tuesday
lunchtime calendar
and drop-in for some
traditional text-based
learning. What's so
queer about Talmud?
Come and learn!

Trail Midrash

Jacob Rothman
Doug Rodgers
Saturday Mornings
April 25 • May 16
June 20 • July 18
Sites TBA
Come once or come often

Spend Shabbat
morning hiking in bay
area parks... creating
Midrash. Bring songs,
poetry, & writings
that compliment the
week's Torah portion.

Kippah Construction

Trudi Hauptman
Tues. 7:30-8:30 pm
April 28
4-6 weeks
At Trudi's home

Crochet your own
kippah! No experience
necessary. Materials
will cost \$5-10
(unless you already
have your own).

Shavuot: Study the Night Away

Save the date: Saturday evening, May 30

COSTS: Membership dues help cover the cost of
Adult Education programs. Except as noted, the
spring classes are free to Sha'ar Zahav members.
Class fees apply to folks who are not (yet?)
members of the congregation. Call the office for
specific class costs. **Internal Diversity Dialogues**
and **Trail Midrash** are free to all.

For information and class locations, call the Sha'ar Zahav office at 415-861-6932.

